

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
ANDERSON/GREENWOOD DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
                               ) October 23, 2018  
                               )  
-versus-                   ) Greenville, SC  
                               )  
BRANDON CORY LECROY,     ) 8:18-480-1  
                               )  
Defendant.                )

TRANSCRIPT OF CHANGE OF PLEA

BEFORE THE HONORABLE BRUCE HOWE HENDRICKS  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE, presiding

A P P E A R A N C E S:

For the Government: WILLIAM J. WATKINS, JR., AUSA  
US Attorney's Office  
55 Beattie Place, Ste. 700  
Greenville, SC 29601

For the Defendant: ERICA M. SODERDAHL, ESQ.  
Federal Public Defender  
75 Beattie Place, Ste. 950  
Greenville, SC 29601

Court Reporter: KAREN E. MARTIN, RMR, CRR  
PO Box 835  
Charleston, SC 29402

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Karen E. Martin, RMR, CRR  
US District Court  
District of South Carolina

Tuesday , October 23 , 2018

(WHEREUPON, court was called to order at 1:22 p.m.)

**THE COURT:** Thank you. Take your seats, please.

Yes, sir, Mr. US Attorney?

MR. WATKINS: Judge, we're here on 8:18-480, this is United States vs. Lecroy. He's present with his attorney, Ms. Soderdahl. And he is prepared, Ms. Soderdahl tells me, to enter a plea to Count 2 of his indictment pending.

**THE COURT:** Okay. Let's go ahead and swear in the defendant.

**THE CLERK:** May it please the Court, Your Honor?

Sir, would you raise your right hand to be sworn.

(WHEREUPON, the defendant was sworn.)

**THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, sir.

**THE CLERK:** Thank you, sir.

THE COURT: Is there a plea agreement in this case?

MR. WATKINS: No, ma'am, there is no written plea agreement. However, there is an understanding that in exchange for him pleading guilty to Count 2, the first count would be dismissed at sentencing if Your Honor would accept that at sentencing.

THE COURT: Okay.

1                   Ms. Soderdahl, have you been able to communicate  
2 with your client?

3                   **MS. SODERDAHL:** I have, Your Honor, yes.

4                   **THE COURT:** And have you explained to him the  
5 charge or charges contained in the indictment and the  
6 possible punishment and his constitutional rights,  
7 including the right to a jury trial?

8                   **MS. SODERDAHL:** Yes, Your Honor.

9                   **THE COURT:** And in your opinion, does he  
10 understand the charges, the punishment, and his rights?

11                  **MS. SODERDAHL:** I believe he does, yes.

12                  **THE COURT:** And how does he indicate he wishes  
13 to plead?

14                  **MS. SODERDAHL:** Guilty, Your Honor.

15                  **THE COURT:** And do you agree with that decision  
16 yourself?

17                  **MS. SODERDAHL:** I do, yes.

18                  **THE COURT:** From your own investigation of the  
19 facts and circumstances of this case, do you feel that the  
20 Government could produce sufficient evidence to convince a  
21 jury of his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, and that if  
22 he were to stand trial, his conviction would be probable?

23                  **MS. SODERDAHL:** Yes, I do, Your Honor.

24                  **THE COURT:** Has he been ordered to submit to a  
25 mental examination to determine his competency?

1                   **MS. SODERDAHL:** Yes, Your Honor. He also was  
2 the subject of a competency hearing where he was found  
3 competent to stand trial.

4                   **THE COURT:** Okay. Do you have any doubt as to  
5 his competence to plead at this time?

6                   **MS. SODERDAHL:** At this time, Your Honor, I do  
7 not.

8                   **THE COURT:** Okay.

9                   All right. Mr. Lecroy, you're now under oath.  
10 And if you answer any of my questions falsely, your  
11 answers could later be used against you in another  
12 prosecution for perjury or making a false statement. Do  
13 you understand?

14                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

15                  **THE COURT:** Okay. And I've been informed that  
16 you wish to plead guilty; is that correct?

17                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

18                  **THE COURT:** And before I can accept your plea of  
19 guilty, it's going to be necessary for me to make sure  
20 that your plea is made freely and voluntarily. So I'm  
21 going to ask you some questions. If you don't understand  
22 the question, just let me know and I'll try to explain it  
23 to you. Or you can stop -- we can stop and you can talk  
24 to your lawyer at any time about any matter if you want  
25 to. Do you understand that?

1                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

2                   **THE COURT:** Okay. How old are you?

3                   **THE DEFENDANT:** I'm 26.

4                   **THE COURT:** Okay. Where were you born?

5                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Anderson, South Carolina.

6                   **THE COURT:** And how far did you go in school?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** I had a special education and  
8 completed 12 years.

9                   **THE COURT:** Okay. What kind of jobs have you  
10 had?

11                  **THE DEFENDANT:** I have not had a job. I've been  
12 on disability.

13                  **THE COURT:** Okay.

14                  **THE DEFENDANT:** I have went to vocational  
15 school.

16                  **THE COURT:** Okay. Have you ever been treated  
17 for alcohol abuse, or drug abuse, or mental illness?

18                  **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

19                  **THE COURT:** Okay.

20                  **MS. SODERDAHL:** It's my understanding if I may,  
21 Your Honor, that Mr. Lecroy, when he was a youth, when he  
22 was I think in elementary school, I think he was treated  
23 for maybe ADHD. I don't have any records on that, but I  
24 know that there's some indication that that did occur  
25 many, many years ago.

1                   **THE COURT:** Okay.

2                   Have you taken any kind of medicine or drugs or  
3 alcohol in the last 24 hours?

4                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

5                   **THE COURT:** Okay. What have you taken?

6                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Do you have that list?

7                   **MS. SODERDAHL:** Mr. Lecroy is currently  
8 prescribed Prozac, which was a result of his mental health  
9 evaluation.

10                  **THE COURT:** Does that affect your ability to  
11 know and understand what you're doing here today?

12                  **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

13                  **THE COURT:** All right. And are you aware of any  
14 physical, emotional or nervous problem that might keep you  
15 from understanding what you're doing here today?

16                  **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

17                  **THE COURT:** Do you understand that you're  
18 pleading guilty?

19                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

20                  **THE COURT:** Okay.

21                  And Ms. Soderdahl, again, do you believe that  
22 your client knows and understands what he's doing?

23                  **MS. SODERDAHL:** I do believe that he does, yes,  
24 Your Honor.

25                  **THE COURT:** Okay. It appears to me that

1 Mr. Lecroy is competent to plead to the charges and I so  
2 find for purposes of the record.

3 Are you satisfied with the manner in which  
4 Ms. Soderdahl has represented you?

5 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

6 **THE COURT:** Have you talked to her for as often  
7 and as long as you felt it was necessary for her to  
8 represent you?

9 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

10 **THE COURT:** Do you need anymore time to talk to  
11 her today?

12 **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

13 **THE COURT:** Have you understood all your  
14 conversations with Ms. Soderdahl?

15 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

16 **THE COURT:** Has she done everything for you that  
17 you felt that she could have or should have done?

18 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

19 **THE COURT:** Has she failed to do anything for  
20 you that you've asked her to do?

21 **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

22 **THE COURT:** Is there anything that you wanted  
23 her to do prior to today that she has not done?

24 **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

25 **THE COURT:** So are you completely satisfied with

1 Ms. Soderdahl's services?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Do you have any complaint that you  
4 want to make to the Court about your lawyer?

5 THE DEFENDANT: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Okay. Under the constitution and  
7 laws of the United States, you have a right to plead not  
8 guilty. If you plead not guilty, you're entitled to a  
9 trial by a jury during which you'd have the right to the  
10 assistance of Ms. Soderdahl on the charges contained in  
11 the indictment. Do you understand that?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: And if you were to go to trial,  
14 you'd be presumed to be innocent. And the Government  
15 would be required to prove you guilty by competent  
16 evidence and beyond a reasonable doubt before you could be  
17 found guilty. And you wouldn't have to prove that you  
18 were innocent. Do you understand?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: And in the course of a trial, the  
21 witnesses for the prosecution, for the Government would  
22 have to come into court and testify in your presence. And  
23 your lawyer could cross-examine those witnesses for the  
24 Government, object to evidence offered by the Government,  
25 and offer evidence on your behalf. Do you understand?

1                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

2                   **THE COURT:** At a trial, while you'd have the  
3 right to testify if you chose to do so, you'd also have  
4 the right not to testify. And no inference or suggestion  
5 of guilt could be drawn from the fact that you did not  
6 testify. Do you understand?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

8                   **THE COURT:** At a trial, you'd also have the  
9 right to the issuance of subpoenas or compulsory process  
10 to compel the attendance of witnesses to come into court  
11 and testify for you in your defense. Do you understand?

12                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

13                  **THE COURT:** If you plead guilty and I accept  
14 your plea, you will waive your right to that jury trial  
15 and the other rights I've discussed. There won't be a  
16 trial. And I'll enter a judgment of guilty and sentence  
17 you on the basis of your guilty plea after considering a  
18 Presentence Report. Do you understand?

19                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

20                  **THE COURT:** If you plead guilty and I accept  
21 your plea, you'll also have to give up your right not to  
22 incriminate yourself since I'll ask you questions about  
23 what you did in order to satisfy myself that you're guilty  
24 as charged. Do you understand?

25                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

1                   **THE COURT:** You may have given an incriminating  
2 statement in this case. If you plead guilty, you will  
3 waive or give up the right to contest or challenge whether  
4 any such incriminating statement was freely and  
5 voluntarily given in accordance with your constitutional  
6 rights. Do you understand?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

8                   **THE COURT:** You may have defenses to the charge  
9 or the charges against you. Do you understand that if you  
10 plead guilty that you waive or give up any defenses to the  
11 charge?

12                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

13                  **THE COURT:** And if you plead guilty and I accept  
14 your plea, you may be required to make restitution to any  
15 victim or victims of your acts, either by payment of money  
16 or in personal service as might be directed by this Court.  
17 If restitution or personal service is ordered, any failure  
18 to comply with that could be a basis for revoking any  
19 period of supervision. Do you understand?

20                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

21                  **THE COURT:** If you're on probation or parole for  
22 some other offense, do you understand that your probation  
23 or parole could be revoked because of your guilty plea in  
24 this case?

25                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

1                   **THE COURT:** Do you understand that when you  
2 plead guilty, you admit the truth of the charge that's  
3 been made against you?

4                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

5                   **THE COURT:** And now that I've discussed your  
6 rights with you, do you still want to plead guilty?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

8                   **THE COURT:** The offense or offenses to which  
9 you're pleading guilty are felony offenses. If your plea  
10 is accepted, you'll be adjudged guilty of that offense.  
11 And such adjudication may deprive you of valuable civil  
12 rights, such as the right to vote, the right to hold  
13 public office, the right to sit on a jury, the right to  
14 possess any kind of firearm, or even a single piece of  
15 ammunition. Do you understand?

16                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

17                  **THE COURT:** If the offense carries a maximum  
18 sentence of 20 years or more, a probationary sentence is  
19 unavailable under Title 18, United States Code, Section  
20 3561(a)(1). Do you understand?

21                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

22                  **THE COURT:** If it's applicable, you may be  
23 required to forfeit certain property to the United States  
24 Government. Do you understand?

25                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

1                   **THE COURT:** If you plead guilty, then I have to  
2 determine the appropriate sentence to be imposed. And  
3 under the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, the US Sentencing  
4 Commission issued guidelines for judges to follow in  
5 sentencing cases, handling criminal case. I'm required to  
6 consider the statutory sentencing factors under 18 USC  
7 3553(a) as well as the advisory sentencing guidelines.  
8 Have you and Ms. Soderdahl talked about how those  
9 statutory factors and the advisory guidelines might affect  
10 your case?

11                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

12                   **THE COURT:** Your lawyer can only give you an  
13 estimate of what your guideline range might be. Do you  
14 understand that the sentence I impose may be different  
15 from any estimate that your lawyer may have given you?

16                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

17                   **THE COURT:** And I'm not going to be able to  
18 determine that guideline sentence for your case until  
19 after the Presentence Report has been done and you and the  
20 Government both have had a chance to challenge the facts  
21 that are contained in that Presentence Report. Do you  
22 understand?

23                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

24                   **THE COURT:** So your sentencing range can be  
25 substantially affected by what's called relevant conduct.

1 Is relevant conduct an issue here?

2 MS. SODERDAHL: It may be, Your Honor.

3 MR. WATKINS: Judge, I think it would be proper  
4 to give that charge, yes, ma'am.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 Your sentencing range could be substantially  
7 affected by what's called relevant conduct. That means  
8 you could be held accountable for criminal conduct in  
9 which you were directly involved in preparation for,  
10 during, or in the course of attempting to avoid  
11 responsibility for the offense with which you've been  
12 charged. It also means that where you've been involved in  
13 any jointly undertaken criminal activity with other people  
14 or another person, you will be held accountable for the  
15 conduct of others that was both in furtherance of your  
16 jointly undertaken activity and reasonably foreseeable in  
17 connection with that activity. Do you understand that?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Have you discussed the subject of  
20 relevant conduct with Ms. Soderdahl?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Ms. Soderdahl, did y'all talk about  
23 that?

24 MS. SODERDAHL: We did talk about that, yes.

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1           All right. So is the Government agreeing to  
2 dismiss some counts?

3           **MR. WATKINS:** Yes, ma'am. It's our intention to  
4 dismiss the first count of his indictment at sentencing.

5           **THE COURT:** Okay.

6           So even if the Government has agreed to dismiss  
7 some counts of your indictment, your relevant conduct  
8 could include conduct alleged in counts of the indictment  
9 which will be dismissed. Do you understand?

10          **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

11          **THE COURT:** And after it's been determined what  
12 guidelines do apply to your case, I've got the authority  
13 in some circumstances to impose a sentence that's either  
14 more severe or less severe than that called for by the  
15 guidelines. Do you understand?

16          **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

17          **THE COURT:** Now, under some circumstances, you  
18 or the Government may have the right to appeal any  
19 sentence I might impose. Do you understand?

20          **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

21          **THE COURT:** Parole's been abolished. And if  
22 you're sentenced to prison you will not be released on  
23 parole. Do you understand?

24          **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

25          **THE COURT:** Now, under the provisions of the

1 Sentencing Reform Act, the Court may order a term of  
2 supervised release to follow imprisonment in any case.  
3 But the Court must order a term of supervised release  
4 following imprisonment if a sentence of more than one year  
5 is imposed or if it's required by statute. Do you  
6 understand?

7           **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

8           **THE COURT:** So when a person is placed on  
9 supervised release, that person is restricted as to the  
10 places he may go and the things he might do, and you must  
11 report to the authorities on a regular basis. Do you  
12 understand?

13           **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

14           **THE COURT:** If you were to violate any term or  
15 condition of that supervised release, you could be given  
16 more time in jail. Do you understand?

17           **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

18           **THE COURT:** So you've heard your lawyer tell me  
19 that she's explained to you the charges against you, the  
20 possible punishment, and your constitutional rights, and  
21 that you understand all of these things. Is that true?

22           **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

23           **THE COURT:** Do you understand what's going on  
24 here today?

25           **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

1                   **THE COURT:** And have you received a copy of the  
2 indictment?

3                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor, I have it right  
4 here.

5                   **THE COURT:** Okay. You've got it right there?  
6 Have you read it?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, ma'am.

8                   **THE COURT:** Okay. Have you gone over it with  
9 Ms. Soderdahl?

10                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, ma'am.

11                  **THE COURT:** And the case in general?

12                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, ma'am.

13                  **THE COURT:** Have you told her everything about  
14 your case?

15                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, ma'am.

16                  **THE COURT:** Okay.

17                  I'd ask Mr. US Attorney to please summarize that  
18 indictment and give us the elements and the penalties.

19                  **MR. WATKINS:** May it please the Court, Your  
20 Honor? Mr. Lecroy is offering to plead guilty to Count 2  
21 of his indictment, which charges murder for hire. It  
22 states that between March 19 and April 9, all of this  
23 year, in the District of South Carolina and elsewhere,  
24 Mr. Lecroy did cause another to travel in interstate  
25 commerce, did use and cause the use of a facility of

1       interstate commerce; that is, communication by cellar  
2       telephone, with the intent that murder be committed in  
3       violation of the laws of the State of South Carolina as  
4       consideration for the receipt of or a promise or agreement  
5       to pay anything of pecuniary value.

6                  Your Honor, the elements the Government would  
7       have to prove if this case went to trial are as follows.  
8       One, that Mr. Lecroy did with the intent that a murder be  
9       committed in violation of the laws of any state or the  
10      United States; two, that Mr. Lecroy did as consideration  
11      for the receipt of or consideration for a promise or  
12      agreement to pay anything of pecuniary value, did cause  
13      another individual to travel in interstate commerce or  
14      Mr. Lecroy used a facility of interstate commerce  
15      connected with the offense.

16                  The maximum penalty that he could face would be  
17      a fine of \$250,000, imprisonment for ten years, supervised  
18      release of three years, and a special assessment fee of  
19      \$100.

20                  **THE COURT:** Okay.

21                  Mr. Lecroy, do you understand the nature of the  
22      charge and the range of possible penalties should you be  
23      convicted?

24                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

25                  **THE COURT:** All right.

1                   And was there a mandatory minimum in there?

2                   **MR. WATKINS:** No, ma'am, there's not a mandatory  
3 minimum.

4                   **THE COURT:** Do you still want to plead guilty?

5                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

6                   **THE COURT:** Did you commit this offense?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

8                   **THE COURT:** Okay. I find that the defendant  
9 fully comprehends and understands the nature of the charge  
10 against him and generally what elements the Government  
11 would have to prove if a trial were held. There's not  
12 been a plea agreement, but there's an understanding about  
13 the dismissal of a count at sentencing.

14                  Do you understand that if I don't accept that  
15 dismissal, you won't be able to withdraw your guilty plea?  
16 Do you understand that?

17                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

18                  **THE COURT:** Has anyone promised you what  
19 sentence you will receive?

20                  **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

21                  **THE COURT:** And do you still want to plead  
22 guilty?

23                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

24                  **THE COURT:** Has anyone held out any hope of a  
25 reward to get you to plead guilty?

1                   **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

2                   **THE COURT:** Has anyone threatened you or  
3                   pressured you or used force to get you to plead guilty?

4                   **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

5                   **THE COURT:** Have you had enough time to decide  
6                   whether you do want to plead guilty?

7                   **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

8                   **THE COURT:** Are you pleading guilty of your own  
9                   free will and accord?

10                  **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

11                  **THE COURT:** Okay.

12                  Mr. US Attorney?

13                  **MR. WATKINS:** Your Honor, may it please the  
14                  Court? As a factual basis for the plea, Your Honor,  
15                  between on or about March 19, 2018, and April 9, 2018,  
16                  Mr. Lecroy sought to hire a hitman to kill his neighbor,  
17                  known as FJ, Foxtrot-Juliet. Lecroy contacted an  
18                  extremist organization and was referred to an FBI  
19                  undercover employee, hereafter referred to as UCE. This  
20                  first contact was a phone call from the District of South  
21                  Carolina to the extremist organization in Alabama.

22                  Your Honor, on March 20th, 2018, via a recorded  
23                  telephone conversation, Mr. Lecroy made an arrangement  
24                  with the UCE to pay for the murder of his neighbor, FJ.  
25                  During the phone call, Lecroy told the UCE, quote, \$500

1 and he's a ghost, end quote. In other words, Lecroy  
2 offered to pay \$500 to procure the death of FJ.  
3 Mr. Lecroy also makes a request to put a flaming cross in  
4 the front yard and to hang his neighbor from a tree.

5 At the time of the call, the UCE was located in  
6 Virginia and so informed Lecroy. Therefore this call by  
7 means of cellar telephone was between Mr. Lecroy in the  
8 District of South Carolina and the UCE in Virginia.

9 Your Honor, on March 22nd, 2018, via a recorded  
10 conversation, Mr. Lecroy reaffirms the agreement  
11 previously made with the UCE. He also provides a UCE with  
12 further intelligence on when to best commit the murder as  
13 well as explains his plans to take over the victim's  
14 property once the murder is executed.

15 Your Honor, on April 9, 2018, the UCE traveled  
16 to Greenwood, South Carolina, in a plan to meet with  
17 Lecroy as per their previous conversations. Pursuant to  
18 their previous agreement, the UCE traveled in interstate  
19 commerce. During this meeting, Mr. Lecroy pointed out to  
20 the UCE FJ's residence and discussed possible future  
21 targets that he could use the UCE's services for.  
22 Mr. Lecroy also provided the UCE with a \$100 cash down  
23 payment with the acknowledgment that this payment was for  
24 the murder of his neighbor.

25 Your Honor, after this exchange of funds,

1 Mr. Lecroy was arrested. FBI agents and state and local  
2 law enforcements descended on the scene and took him into  
3 custody.

4 Your Honor, he was eventually given his Miranda  
5 warnings and he agreed to talk with state and local  
6 officials. And he admitted to them that he had hired  
7 someone he believed to be a hitman to kill FJ.

8 **THE COURT:** Okay.

9 All right. Do you agree with the prosecutor's  
10 summary of what you did?

11 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

12 **THE COURT:** Do you have any questions that you  
13 want to ask him before we go on?

14 **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

15 **THE COURT:** Have you understood all my  
16 questions?

17 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

18 **THE COURT:** Is there anything you want to ask me  
19 before we go on?

20 **THE DEFENDANT:** No, Your Honor.

21 **THE COURT:** How do you wish to plead?

22 **THE DEFENDANT:** Guilty.

23 **THE COURT:** Are you guilty?

24 **THE DEFENDANT:** Yes, Your Honor.

25 **THE COURT:** Okay.

1           It's the finding of the Court in the case of  
2 Brandon Lecroy that the defendant is fully competent and  
3 capable of entering an informed plea. His plea of guilty  
4 is a knowing and voluntary plea supported by an  
5 independent basis in fact and containing each of the  
6 essential elements of the offense. He is now adjudged  
7 guilty of that offense.

8           So a written Presentence Report is going to be  
9 prepared by the US Probation Office. And you're going to  
10 be asked to give information for that report which will be  
11 used to assist me at sentencing. And your lawyer can be  
12 present during any questioning by the probation office.  
13 You and Ms. Soderdahl will be able to read that  
14 Presentence Report and file any objections to that report  
15 prior to the sentencing hearing. And you'll also have the  
16 chance to speak on your own behalf. So you'll be referred  
17 on now to the probation office to get that report done.

18           **THE DEFENDANT:** Okay. Thank you. I would wish  
19 that Ms. Soderdahl, my attorney, would be present during  
20 that meeting.

21           **THE COURT:** Okay. She heard you say that. She  
22 will be.

23           (WHEREUPON, the defendant signed his plea.)

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\* \* \*

2 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from  
3 the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

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s / Karen E. Martin

7/1/2019

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Karen E. Martin, RMR, CRR

Date

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